



Voda-Idea to be India's largest telecom operator

The government on Thursday gave final approval to Vodafone-Idea merger



Kumar Mangalam Birla will be non-executive chairman

A TELECOM BEHEMOTH

- New telecom entity will be known as Vodafone Idea Limited
- Will have 430 million subscribers
- Idea Cellular and Vodafone India pay **Rs 7,268.78 cr** to government
- The combined worth of the company is **Rs 1.5 lakh cr**



Celestial Mars and
A blood moon lunar eclipse a planet await s

Niti Aayog stresses on development of cashless economy

MANGALURU, DHNS: Ratan P Watal, principal adviser (Social Sector), Niti Aayog, expressed his intention to outreach with universities and students taking forward the concept of a cashless economy.

Watal, who is also member-secretary, Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM), visited the Sahyadri College of Engineering and Management and interacted with the management and faculty.

He was accompanied by B N Satpathy, senior consultant, EAC-PM, NITI Aayog; and K Rajeshwar Rao, representative, NITI Aayog, along with Prof B S Nagendra Prakash, registrar of Mangalore University and Dr BH Shekar from

the Mangalore University.

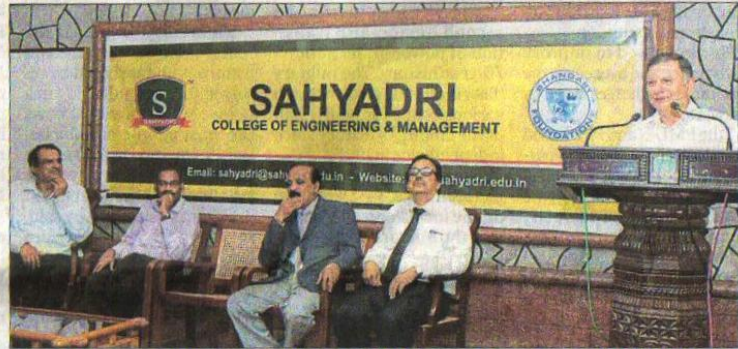
Banking tradition

Addressing the gathering, Watal said he has learnt of the rich tradition of banking in Mangaluru and proposes that the banking institutions and academic institutions, along with their students, should get to field, find the problems and also get to the solutions to the problems related to cashless economy.

He urged the students and faculty to inspire themselves to find solutions to the problems of the downtrodden people, which, in return, would give a sense of accomplishment.

Tough job market

B N Satpathy said that job mar-



Ratan P Watal, principal adviser (Social Sector), Niti Aayog, addresses the gathering during his visit to Sahyadri College of Engineering and Management in Mangaluru.

ket these days is tough. However, there is enough scope for innovation, which should

overcome this challenge.

Prof B S Nagendra Prakash said the world is no more a far

off place as there is more accessibility and availability of information.